

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL 435

Short Title: Need-Based Scholarships/Virtual Institution. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Ballard (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 2, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ADD NONPROFIT VIRTUAL POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS AS
3 ELIGIBLE PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF
4 THE NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING
5 PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 116-280(3) reads as rewritten:

8 "(3) Eligible private postsecondary institution. – A school that is any of the
9 following:

10 a. A nonprofit postsecondary educational institution with a main
11 permanent campus located in this State that is not owned or operated
12 by the State of North Carolina or by an agency or political subdivision
13 of the State or by any combination thereof that satisfies all of the
14 following:

15 1. Is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and
16 Schools under the standards of the College Delegate Assembly
17 of the Association or by the New England Association of
18 Schools and Colleges through its Commission on Institutions
19 of Higher Education.

20 2. Awards a postsecondary degree as defined in G.S. 116-15.

21 b. A postsecondary institution owned or operated by a hospital authority
22 as defined in G.S. 131E-16(14) or school of nursing affiliated with a
23 nonprofit postsecondary educational institution as defined in
24 sub-subdivision a. of this subsection.

25 c. A nonprofit virtual postsecondary institution that is not owned or
26 operated by the State of North Carolina or by an agency or political
27 subdivision of the State or by any combination thereof that meets all
28 of the following:

29 1. Is accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by
30 the United States Department of Education.

31 2. Has established and continuously maintains a physical campus
32 or location of operation in this State.

33 3. Maintains a governing body or advisory board in this State
34 with oversight of the institution's operations in North
35 Carolina."



1 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies to the award of
2 need-based scholarships on or after that date.